

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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March 30, 2004

FROM: **JAMES A. FELTEN**, Public Health Director
 Department of Public Health

**SUBJECT: APPLICATION TO VILLAGE TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR TOBACCO
 PREVENTION EDUCATION**

RECOMMENDATION: Approve submission of a grant application in the amount of \$37,000 to the Village Training Institute for the Don't Start Tobacco Community Outreach Program, for the period July 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This item requests approval for submission of a grant application to the Village Training Institute for the Don't Start Tobacco Community Outreach Program.

In the application, the Department proposes to provide tobacco prevention education and resistance skills to approximately 1,300 clients, through 240 hours of presentation. The Department will specifically target at-risk youth, low-income families and substance abusers. The Department will utilize existing part-time Health Services Assistant staff, skilled in Tobacco Use Prevention Education to conduct all grant activities. The staff will conduct multiple one-hour presentations accompanied by videotapes, visual aides, role playing and group discussion. Additionally, each client served will be provided with information regarding other community resources available to aid them in tobacco cessation and resistance. The Department currently has requests from the Adelanto Community Correction Facility, St. John of God Health Care Services and the Silver Valley Unified School District to conduct these services. The Department will additionally provide these services to other requesting organizations or agencies, as funding allows.

Tobacco use is one of the most prevalent dangers to children today. It is estimated that each day, more than 5,000 California children will try their first cigarette, and that each day, 2,000 more children under the age of 18 will become regular daily smokers. Additionally, almost ninety percent of all adult smokers started at or under the age of 18. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, 25% of Americans smoke and 43% of children aged 2 to 11 years are exposed to environmental tobacco smoke, contributing to such ailments as allergies, asthma, bronchitis, and pneumonia.

The Village Training Institute receives funding through the Compassion Capital Fund Demonstration Project, awarded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The Compassion Capital Fund was designed to provide technical assistance and sub-grantee awards to build and develop community programs.

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The application is due to the Village Training Institute no later than April 7, 2004.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS: This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Charles Larkin, Deputy County Counsel, (909) 387-4177) on March 18, 2004. This item has also been reviewed by County Administrative Office (Carol Hughes, Administrative Analyst, (909) 388-0211) on March 19, 2004.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Approval of this item requires no local County cost. All expenditures will be fully reimbursed by the Village Training Institute. Existing Department staff will conduct all grant activities. The Department will return to the Board to accept and budget any funds resulting from this application.

COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this item and recommends its approval as it will impose no local cost to the County and will allow the Department to better meet the health needs of San Bernardino County residents.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

PRESENTER: James A. Felten, Public Health Director, (909) 387-9146

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